1
Yozakura Quartet
Suzuhito Yasuda

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Translated by Satsuki Yamashita
Adapted by Nunzio DeFilippis and Christina Weir
Lettered by North Market Street Graphics

Yozakura Quartet volume 1 is a work of fiction. Names, characters, places, and incidents are the products of the author's imagination or are used fictitiously. Any resemblance to actual events, locales, or persons, living or dead, is entirely coincidental.

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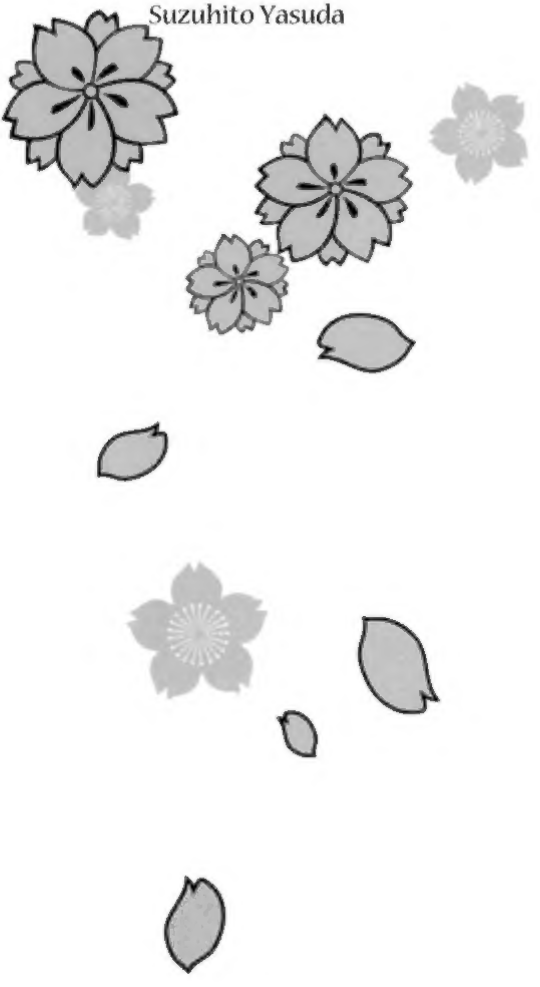
A Note from the Author

There are these three girls who do whatever they want and always end up making a big scene. It feels like I'm being pulled by them, or being pushed around by them. But I was just trying to keep up with them, and this book was the result. If someone asked me if this book was more like a son or a daughter to me, I would have to say a daughter.

That's the kind of manga this is.

Suzuhito Yasuda



Honorifics Explained

In this manga book, you will find Japanese honorifics left intact in the translations. For those not familiar with how the Japanese use honorifics and, more important, how they differ from American honorifics, we present this brief overview.

Politeness has always been a critical facet of Japanese culture. Ever since the feudal era, when Japan was a highly stratified society, use of honorifics—which can be defined as polite speech that indicates relationship or status—has played an essential role in the Japanese language. When addressing someone in Japanese, an honorific usually takes the form of a suffix attached to one's name (example: "Asuna-san"), is used as a title at the end of one's name, or appears in place of the name itself (example: "Negi-sensei," or simply "Sensei!").

Honorifics can be expressions of respect or endearment. In the context of manga and anime, honorifics give insight into the nature of the relationship between characters. Many English translations leave out these important honorifics and therefore distort the feel of the original Japanese. Because Japanese honorifics contain nuances that English honorifics lack, it is our policy not to translate them. Here, instead, is a guide to some of the honorifics you may encounter in our manga.

-san: This is the most common honorific and is equivalent to Mr., Miss, Ms., Mrs. It is the all-purpose honorific and can be used in any situation where politeness is required.

-sama: This is one level higher than "-san" and is used to confer great respect.

-dono: This comes from the word "tono," which means "lord." It is an even higher level than "-sama" and confers utmost respect.

-kun: This suffix is used at the end of boys' names to express familiarity or endearment. It is also sometimes used by men among friends, or when addressing someone younger or of a lower station.

-chan: This is used to express endearment, mostly toward girls. It is also used for little boys, pets, and even among lovers. It gives a sense of childish cuteness.

Bozu: This is an informal way to refer to a boy, similar to the English terms "kid" and "squirt."

Sempai/Senpai: This title suggests that the addressee is one's senior in a group or organization. It is most often used in a school setting, where underclassmen refer to their upperclassmen as "sempai." It can also be used in the workplace, such as when a newer employee addresses an employee who has seniority in the company.

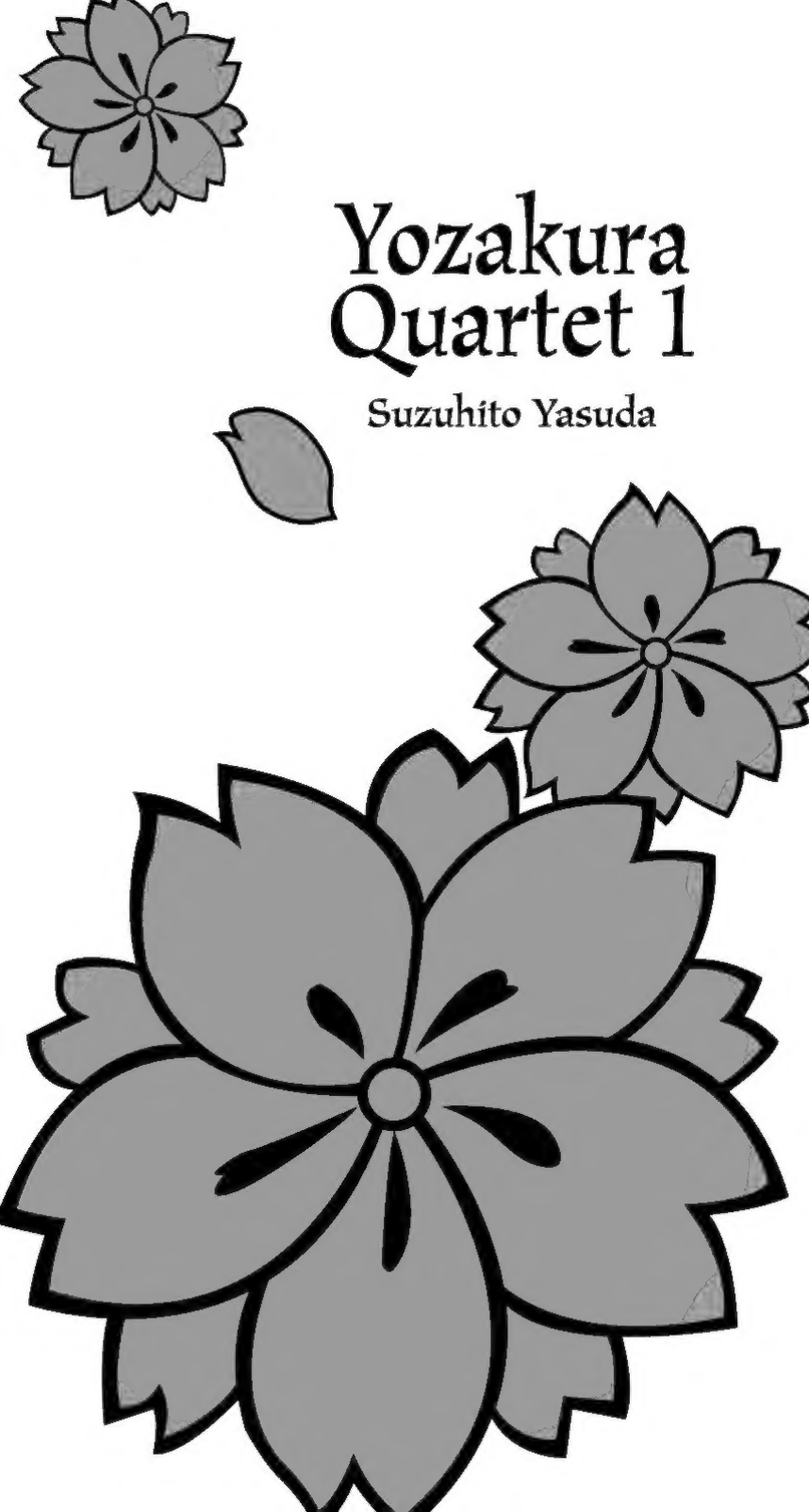
Kohai: This is the opposite of "sempai" and is used toward underclassmen in school or newcomers in the workplace. It connotes that the addressee is of a lower station.

Sensei: Literally meaning "one who has come before," this title is used for teachers, doctors, or masters of any profession or art.

-[blank]: This is usually forgotten in these lists, but it is perhaps the most significant difference between Japanese and English. The lack of honorific means that the speaker has permission to address the person in a very intimate way. Usually, only family, spouses, or very close friends have this kind of permission. Known as *yobisute*, it can be gratifying when someone who has earned the intimacy starts to call one by one's name without an honorific. But when that intimacy hasn't been earned, it can be very insulting.

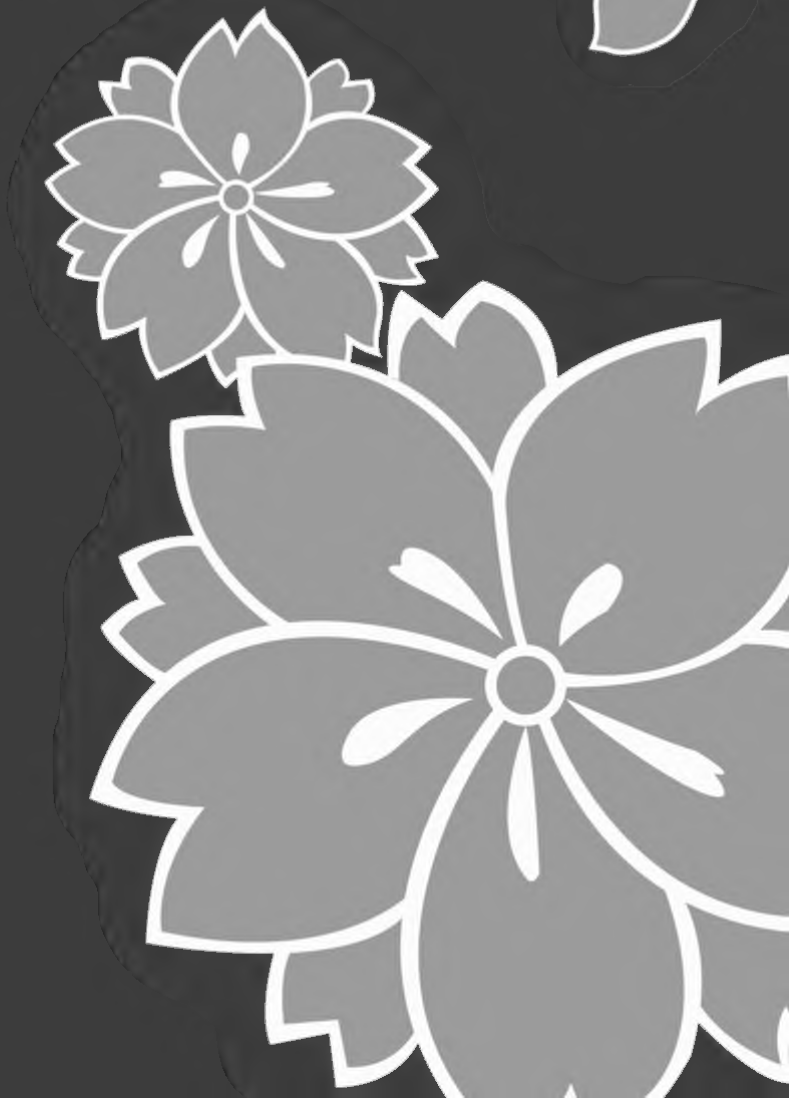
Yozakura Quartet 1

Suzuhito Yasuda



Yozakura Quartet Contents

003……Sakura Blossoming
055……Waiting for You (Part 1)
081……Waiting for You (Part 2)
119……Face the Risks
163……Your Song
200……Extras



Eek!!
BLAM
BLAM
Aaahhh!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
But there's more coming!
Scared?
Oh... oh...
She fainted already.
THUNK
...Oh.
How boring. I wanted you to be scared for longer.
Oh, come on.

1st Night:
Sakura Blossoming

Attention, townspeople.
BEEP
The suspect in the random shootings is still at large.
Please try to avoid going out after sunset.
Hime-sama!

Right.
SST
What?
It's time to go.
And don't make me say it again.
I would do anything to resolve this.
While I'm on duty, call me "Mayor"!
Yes.
I'm sorry.
They're opposed to hiring the group, as we predicted.
TMD
But we have no choice.
ZWIP...

Kotoha!
Kotoha!
Huh? But no one's been injured, right?
It's dangerous out anyway. You should go home.
Let's go do karaoke.
I want to hear you sing!
Sorry. I have work today.
What a weird shooter.
.....
WAAAH
Then let's go tomorrow.

Oh my...
My kite got caught.
If only...
...there were a strong "wind" to blow it...
...then you could get it.
WHOOSH
Whoa!
Whoa! It's so high!

Give it back!
Hey!
No.
Just give it back.
No way, Jose!
Give me back my candy.
If you can guess which hand it's in, I'll give it back!
Which one is it?
HIDE
Here.
SHOW
DING!

Looking from this side...
I can't tell.
.....
But it's really in my pocket.
How did you know?
That's not fair.
Whaaaaat!?
It's in his back pocket?
It's not in either?
Huh?
WHISPER
TAP
ZWISH

Ao.
Is Director Akina here?
Yes, in the office...
Is this about the case?
PLEASE
Do not ride motorcycles and bicycles inside the park.
Baseball, soccer, and golfing are a nuisance to everyone!
Do not climb on the fence.
Do not play with fire.
Take care of the greenery.
Pick up after your dog.
Comments
Suggestions
If you hire us, aren't you going to get complaints from the higher-ups in the district?
Doesn't matter. It's a problem in my town!
The Neighborhood Watch and police aren't enough.

The Hiizumi Life Counseling Office...
Hiizumi Life Counseling Office
However...
RUN-DOWN
It's run-down as always...
But I'm more worried about the employees.
Just call it a historic building...
Ao and I are employees here.
CLICK
I'm sure Akina has already taken action on this case.
It's a dump, but this office is perfect for cases like this one.

BAM!
Akina! You know that case about...
I thought she just had her hand on the doorknob.
Hello!
SLOB
Oh, hey.
HM?
SPLASH
SPLASH
What about the case?
Oh, my.
SST

...
It's not a big deal.
...he's a shooter, but no one's injured, right?
Aw, come on...
Look.
THROW
The suspect.
FLAP
Huh?
What?
You have that much information on him?
I changed.

His name is Kosuke Yoshimura
He was convicted of injuring thirteen people in a shooting rampage
...and has been in jail for two years
He's a total freak Completely trigger-happy
In jail? So he escaped?
Yeah. According to the guards...
...he collapsed in pain one night.
He was being taken to the doctor when he ran away.

The wall was ten meters high
He jumped it easily
. . . . . .
Super powers?
That means..
Yeah

This involves the seven spiritual sakura...
ONE
...the Seven Pillars.
I'm sure of it.
ONE
.....
.....

I guess we'll eat first.
Kotoha, can you order?
Sure.
GROWL
Oh.

Coming.
PONG
PONG
CLICK
Hello!
I'm from Houran. Here's your order.
RIN

WOO HOO
Oh yeah.
Hey, can I get a receipt that says the order was for Sakurashin Town?
WHISPER
Huh?
Thanks, Rin-chan.
How much?
It'll be 3,800 yen.*

*Approx. $38

You can't get reimbursed for that.
SLURP

RECEIPT for Sakurashin town 3,800 yen
Hime, here.
It's in the city's name, so can I get reimbursed?
Mayor!

Then can our office pay?
Um... Kotoha-san.
Uh, it's made out to someone else, so I can't take it.

Huh? Why not!?
It's a necessary expense to solve this case!!
I can't spend tax money just like that!!
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP

Trash.
Then this receipt is...?
RECEIPT
For Sakurashin
Town
3,800 yen
Food expense
HOURAN
Hey, actually, you guys pay for your own food!
Why do I have to treat you!?
Shut up! I can't hear the TV!!
Are you serious?
RUSTLE
Oh, that's right outside our station.

Don't touch that dial. ♡
This is Juri, in front of the Sakurashin Town station.
She's the town celebrity.
She's on TV a lot lately.
There are no commercials, Juri-san!!
SLURP
Okay, in this segment, I will, as a doctor, examine the people strolling through town.
Today we'll...oh!

PUSH
PUSH
ぐぐ
You with the pale face!
Inter-ested?
Huh?
Me?
Do I look that pale?
PUSH
ぐぐ
Oh?
!!

You won't kill me, right?
Ha ha!
I guess I've gotten that reputation.
Oh no, are you the...
That's right. The famous shooter.
I'm actually a fan of yours...
But oh well.
Oh, is this the camera?
But, actually...
If I kill my victims, they won't feel fear anymore, right?
That'd be boring.
So I scared them and then let them go free.

Are all my victims watching?
Good.
...they can relive their fears over and over.
But if they see me on the news...
Okay... preparation time is over!
Now I'm going to kill you all.
See you soon!
What...

GRRRRR
What's with him!?
What!? What!? What!?
What?
They left already.
EMPTY
That...
...guy...
Hey, everyone!
Just get back to work, Rin-chan.
NO WAY!
SLURP SLURP
They left me behind!?
Hold it right there!!
ZWISH
Urgh...
That is, if you're still alive.
Can I get your autograph later?

WHIP
You're not going anywhere, you criminal twerp!!
Ooh.
Something new!

CLICK
Criminal twerp? That's not nice.
Ack!
Aaaghhh!
Damn it!
CLANG
CLANG
CRACK
CRACK
CLANG
CLANG
Whoa!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
We gotta get out of here!
He might hit civilians.

Idiot!
DASH!
There's nowhere in town where there isn't someone!
CLICK
WHIP
Oh!
BLAM
BLAM
. . . . ?!
What the heck?
Cat ears?
Ao!
I can do it!
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
UMM...

"Satellite!!"
BOOM
I have to go shopping
Pick up my grandkid...
Turn left at the corner...
Florist and market...
...Mm!!

I found it!!
Turn right at the next corner...
Ha!
The intersection of Tsurumaki Street!!
There's no way...
だ
DAAAAAAAAH
だ
だ
だ
MOVE IT
どけどけー
だ
MOVE IT
Got it!

...no...
SILENCE
No one's here!?
...way...
It'll be empty...
...for four minutes!
That's long enough!!

I used too much power. I'm hungry...
GROWL
Okay, I'll buy you muffins later!
Didn't you just eat?
Well, it doesn't matter anyway!
Die!!
BLAM

CRAAAACK!
BLAM
What the...!?
Aaaaghh!
NO WAY
It broke!!
Of course it did!

You... monster!!
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
What the heck are you doing!?
BLAM
BLAM
BLAM
How dare you!
WHAP!
WHIP
IP you can slap a bullet from the side at mach three, you can deflect it.
You're gonna pay for this!
WHIP
BLAM
Kids, please don't try this at home...
This is a manga, after all.
Then take this!
ガチャ!
KERCHUNK

GLINT
キラン
Uh...
Huh?
My shotgun...

Give it up!

Urgh.
Yeah, right!
WOOSH

CH

WOOSH
I still have more guns!!
TA-DA
Never take a gun not lightly!!
Go to hell!
TWITCH

"Freeze."
!?
WOBBLE
What... the heck?
THUD
SLID
Ow!

Ouch!!
THUD
Oh my...
You say you're a gun nut but you only have a few guns.
Bullet
KICK
. . . . . !?
Tsuru-Maki Street
SSHIINGGG
BULLET

BLAM
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
Give him more
She is indeed a true gun nut.
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
BLAM BLAM
AAAAGGGHHHH!!
Feel the wrath...
BULLET
BULLET
BULLET
CRACKLE
CRACKLE
...of a true gun nut!!
BULLET
WOOSH

Whoa!
DASH
Do you think he's alive?
SMOKE
SMOKE
GRAB
Oh...
Monsters or not, you'll die if I shoot you in the heart!!
Ao!
Crap!
Right!?
Ugh...!!

.....
...back, you monsters!!
BLAM
Stay...
BLAM
Hey...
WHIP
WHISPER
FLAP
Don't make me mad.
Aaaagghhh!!

SILENCE
Huh?
...
FLAP
...Tricked you.
I'm just a normal human being.
RECEIPT
For Sakurashin
Town
3,800 yen
Food expense
Ryouran G

...What?
ゆうー
WOOSH
Hey...
Stop...
What?

がし
GRAB

KONK
Ow!!

Oh.
ふわ～
FLOAT
OWWWWW.

ドク
THROB

We got it
There it goes
What do we do now?
We can just leave it. It'll disappear over time
It's been almost four minutes
True
Then for now...
But that was a weird case of spirit possession
this
WOOSH

...case is closed!!

BUZZ
BUZZ
VROOM
BUZZ
CLICK
BUZZ
Let's go home.
Yeah.

Tsun tsun dere tsun ♪
Dere tsun tsun
Hm.
I see.
What's that song?
An interesting group.

An ordinary human.
A super mayor.
A kotodama user who can conjure up anything she speaks.
And a satori, a demon who can read other people's minds.
I see.
How interesting!

1st Night: Sakura Blossoming FIN

Yozakura Quartet Designs

Akina Hiizumi

Age: 18

Hobbies:
cooking, cleaning

Favorites

Food:
curry

Music Group:
Your Song Is Good

Comedian:
Hoshi Koishi Master

Uchi-P member:
Otake

Little-Known Fact:
He's skilled with the abacus.

179 cm*

*Approx. 5'8"

HIDAGYU
ヒダギュ
Welcome
You don't know it!?
It's Hidagyu from "Rocket Monsters!"
It's so cute. No wonder it's a popular character.
I see.
What is that tasty-looking, I mean, cute character?
HIDAGYU?
かわいい
HOW CUTE
SHOCK
ガーン
She said it!
...looks tasty...
And...
It's so cute...

2nd Night:
Waiting for You
(Part 1)

Dere! Tsun! Tsun!
Tsun! Tsun! Dere! Tsun!
GO!
ぱぁ!!
CLAP
CLAP

We'll call it a day! Make sure to practice at home!
Yay, we're done!

Noooo!!
Tsun tsun tsun dere...
And what is our mayor doing?

Let's play some more, Hime!
That wasn't playing!
The kids like her...
BUZZ
BUZZ

Hello! Delivery!
That's our town song?
Yeah! The town song!
A CD? Of that song you were singing?
I'm thinking of making a CD!

We have new residents here in our town...
I built a kindergarten!
I see.
Who ordered the spicy shredded pork ramen?

Why make a CD all of a sudden? Are you low on cash?
Hello!
Did you spend it on something?

Bon appetit!
HEH HEH HEH
And this is my nice side, the wonderful mayor...

Problems?
SLURP
ズズ
We have just two problems...
OPEN
あんぐ
See that boy?
ポン
KICK

He's that good?
Yeah, he's really good.

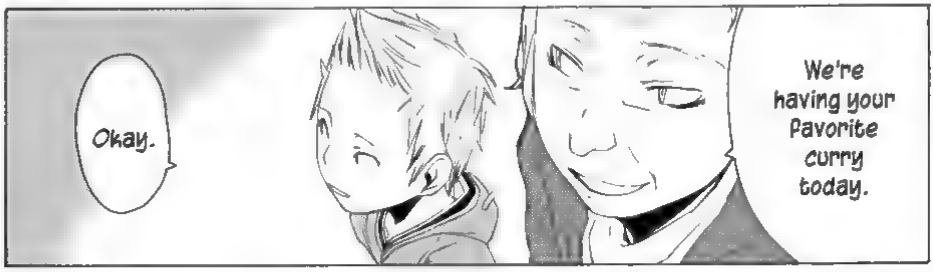
I was hoping he'd sing the lead.
But he's been depressed lately, and won't do it.
11
12
The lead?

TAP...
.....

I remember the town karaoke tournament. We were the two finalists...
Forget it.

Junta!

It's dinnertime, Junta.
Let's go home.
...Okay.


We're having your favorite curry today.
Okay.

ZWISH...
.....
He used to be more cheerful.
I wonder what happened?
.....

I need him to cheer up because I can't release the CD without him.
I'm going to look into it, but can you guys check it out as well?
All right. We'll try.
It's for the good of our town!
We don't have enough teachers.
We'll have more next week...but none this week.
And your other problem?
Oh, right.
The kindergarten I mentioned earlier.
Hime, why don't you do it?
I have school!
Me, too.
SLURP

Really? Thanks.
I have to wake up at seven?
BLECH
Oh.
Then we'll do it.
BLECH
That helps a lot.
I'll add Kyosuke, too!
That could be a problem...
Yeah, that's true.
HMM...
But hey...
MUNCH
...don't you guys need credentials?

It's an emergency, so there are no other options!
WAAAAH!
All right.

SOMETHING!
There's got to be something I can do.
I'm the mayor!
Do what?

Oh, okay...
Thanks...

Oh! Then I'll do it, too!
I don't work until the afternoon...

LOOKS LIKE A KINDERGARTNER
...just like one of the students...
But she looks...
?

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS
YSIG × BEGR

WE ARE THE CHAMPIONS
They look like they're having fun...

SMILE
Kyosuke sensei.
Here! For you!
How cute!
Thank you.
Hey, wait a minute!
Don't bring my sister into this!
"Your onii-chan likes little girls."
You know what I'm going to tell Touka-chan?
GASP
うぉー
YAY
.....

Do you want to step outside, Akina sensei?
You're not going to deny liking little girls?
GGGRIP
Would "Your onii-chan's got a weird sister complex" be better?
You little...!!
THUMP THUMP
RARGH RARGH
They get along so well.

Can you play the next song?
NEXT!
Oh, okay.

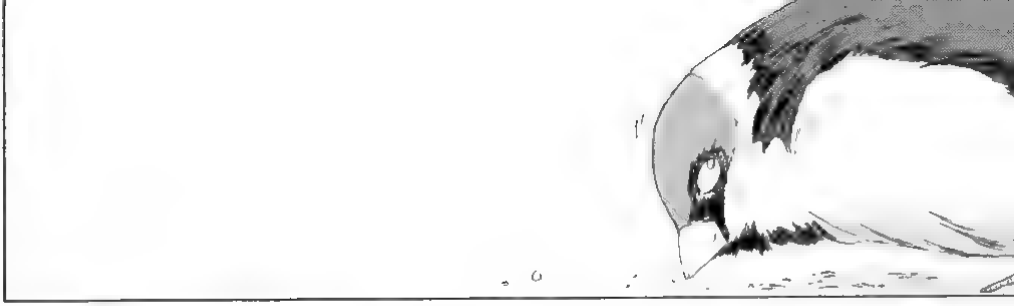
Sensei!

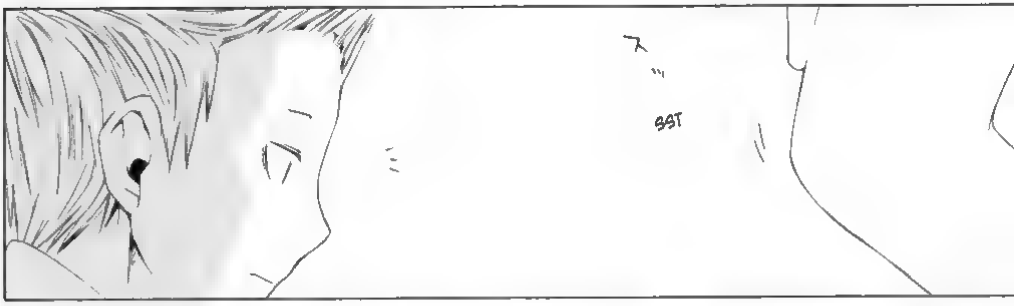
Butterfly!
Sponge-bob!
CHATTER
CHATTER
The train song!

Hm? What did you want?
Um...
Uh...um...
.....
MUMBLE MUMBLE
Say it louder!
Er...
Say it!
CRACKLE

ポロ…
TING...
Little Star!
ポロ
TING
ポロ…
TING...
Oh...
This one!
Wow, how did you know?
HOW COOL

HERE
She's gone...
Where did Rin-chan go?
Fresh Mineral water
She's gone...
HERE
YAY
HERE
Take that!
GLANCE
GLANCE
Where did she go?
Oh?




SST

Hello.

He's a student here.

...Hello.

That bird really likes you.
I gave it food when it was hurt.
I see.
.....
.....
RUSTLE
I'M okay...
You don't look too happy lately. Everyone's worried.
わーい YAY
わーい YAY

Here! Snacks!
TA-DA
ぱぱっ
I'm not hungry...
Here! Toys!
TA-DA
ぱっ
...No thanks.
.....
ぱっ
TA-DA
Here! Hidagyu!
This should...
ニギニギ
RUSTLE RUSTLE
Then... how about this?

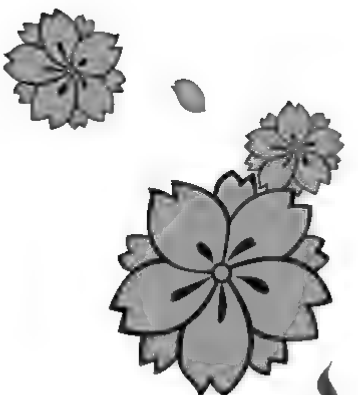
TH-
THUMP
!
DAAASH
だ
だ
ぁ
.....
SST
ス…
.....
...No thanks. I don't need it!
...
だっ
DASH
Oh...

FLAP

It's easy!
Just use your ability to read his mind!
SLURP

And if he becomes cheerful again, we can release the song and earn money for the town!
I'm sure he has a reason. You just need to find it.
And everything will be resolved!
The town will become a better place!
.....
Then we'll finish eating and go...
I...I don't want to.
Huh?
What did you say?
SMILE
SMILE
I don't want to read his mind...

CRACK
What did you say?



Yozakura Quartet

Yozakura Quartet Designs

Usually hides her ears (with a hat or headphones)

Age: 15

Hobbies:
climbing trees, eating

Favorites

Food:
sweet things

Music Group:
Suemitsu & the Suemith

Comedian:
Chaplin

Uchi-P member:
Red Yoshida

Little-Known Fact:
can run 100 meters* in 10+ seconds

*Approx. 109 yards

Ao

148 cm*

*Approx. 4'10"

Before you return them to us.
I'd be happy if you could wash the bowls.
"Song for picking up bowls."

Oh! They're having fun again today.
あ ROAR
あ ROAR
あ

I'll sit in again today because they didn't notice.
I can't tell if they're working.

Hello!!
ハローー
SLAM

ぎゃあ AARGH
ぎゃあ AARGH
おおなぬ!! TROUBLE!
Whoa!!

3rd Night: Waiting for You (Part 2)

うわーん
WAAH
I know. I know.
But I don't think I should this time.
Why not? You've always read people's minds to resolve cases!!
I understand that it doesn't feel good reading other people's minds! I'm sure people don't want their minds to be read, either!
But this is for the sake of the town!
WOOSH
What's going on?
Shut up!
Oh my gosh, what's wrong? You guys never fight!

If you're saying...
...that the town is more important than the people...
THUD
We have to read Junta's mind and fix his problems or we can't release the CD!
It's for the town, so you better cooperate!
Urgh...
I don't want to live in that kind of town!
Whoa.
ROLL
THUD

WAAH
Ao!
DASH
.....
Oh boy
...Hey.
Yes?
That was totally uncool.
...I know.
Akina.

Maybe I said too much.
SNIFF
Oh.
SNIFF

It's Junta-kun's grandmother.
Yes. I work there.
Aren't you from Hiizumi-san's office?
I'm glad.
Fine enough to fight...
She's fine...
TURN
SNIFF
Urgh...
It seems that Hime-chan's there a lot, too. How is she?
.....
Everyone in my generation thinks of her as a granddaughter.
She's been mayor since she was nine, right?

.....
Too blunt...
She's just so blunt.
And sometimes her feelings for this town may go overboard...
But she's doing a good job.
It's for the town so you better cooperate!
...I read her mind right now, I might find out something...
If...
See you.
Oh...
Oops. I came here looking for Junta.
.....

Ack!
She left.
PEEK
ピョコ
. . . . . .
I didn't see anything!
ボッコ
THUD
ボッコ
THUD
...I don't know anymore.
Hm.

All this time, I've been reading minds, thinking it was for the greater good.
And I understand Hime-chan's feelings toward the town.

Hmm...

I don't know!
Oh.

But am I being selfish...
...For not wanting to read this time?
.....

No matter how much you think that this is for someone else...
or that it's for the greater good...
But I really don't know.
Hey, don't get depressed!
I'm seriously in a bind...
If you take action, figuring that the other person will be happy...
Well, you really can't tell that...
...unless you read their mind.
...you're the only one who can judge your actions.
.....
Look, everyone goes through life...
...taking care of themselves and doing what they need to do.
Everyone.

So, I think you can just go about your life...
...living the way you want.
.....
PEEK
And doing what you want.
And if you mess up...
...just come and lean on me and Hime.

This town and our office...
...aren't so small that there's no room for your problems.

Er...
SNIFF

You're one of our most valuable employees.
DASH
I'm going to go buy dinner!

AP

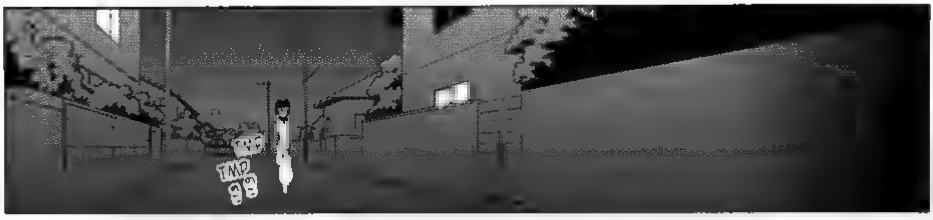
But you just ate...
DAASH

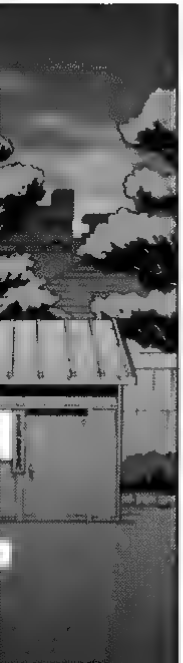
I'll leave her with you.

DRAG
Z"
Z"

But until then...
...please take care of my sister, Ao.
I'll definitely be back.

Am I doing the right thing, Gin?
Hmm...
I wonder...


TMP
TMP



Huh?

What should I do with these groceries?
PILE
どっさり

CHIRP...

WOOSH
I got it!
I know why he's depressed!
カチャ
CLICK
Oh..
Fif-teen...
CHIRP
CHIRP
Six-teen...
ポーン
KICK
ポーン
KICK
Nine-teen...
KICK
Eigh-teen...
CHIRP...
Seven-teen...

Tw—
Twenty.
Huh?
WOOSH
Dad...
You're working hard, huh?
Hey.

It's been a while.
ばっ
JUMP
Hey!
Dad!!

You've gotten so much better.
I saw.
Just like I promised, I can do it up to twenty!

Oh, really?
SHOCK
H'!
I don't really like Hidagyu...

Hidagyu!
Here! I got you a reward!!
TA-DA
ばーん
Welcome

But...
SQUEEZE

...this is Pine!
Welcome home, Dad!
But what about your work?
And how do you know I can kick the ball twenty times?
Heh heh.
PHEW
A girl with eyebrows like this?
A girl with eyebrows like this...
...came and asked my boss to let me come back.

. . . . . .
LESSONS
PIPING HOT LUNCH
I thought that if I made the town good, the people would be happy.
But now I realize the people are the town.
So if I want a good town, I have to make them happy first.
Taking care of a town is difficult...
. . . . . .
Well, it's good that you've realized that.
JUMP
Yeah.

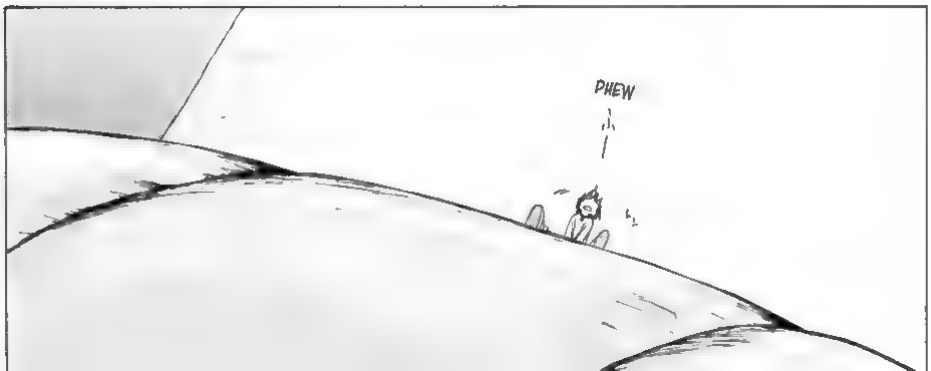
I'll take it one person at a time.
TMP
I'll talk to each resident to resolve his or her problems!
TA-DA
This is it!!
We'll move up in baby steps!
Kiyoshi?
Urgh...
Then let's go, Hime.
CHIRP...

It's a promise, Dad!
.....
I know.
The Hidagyu that's popular right now, okay?
Okay!
Give me a reward if I can do it, okay?
Yeah.
Twenty times!
Promise.
...Yeah.

PEEK
GRAB
THUMP
Here we go.
Phew...

Yeah.
Thanks for letting me know.
CHIRP
CHIRP

Thanks.
It helped me a lot.


PHEW

How is it, Ao?
.....
WHIIA
WHIIA
Isn't it a great view? It's my favorite place.
Yeah!
Yeah...
I have to go in order to protect this town.
But I'll come back to see this view again.
I promise.

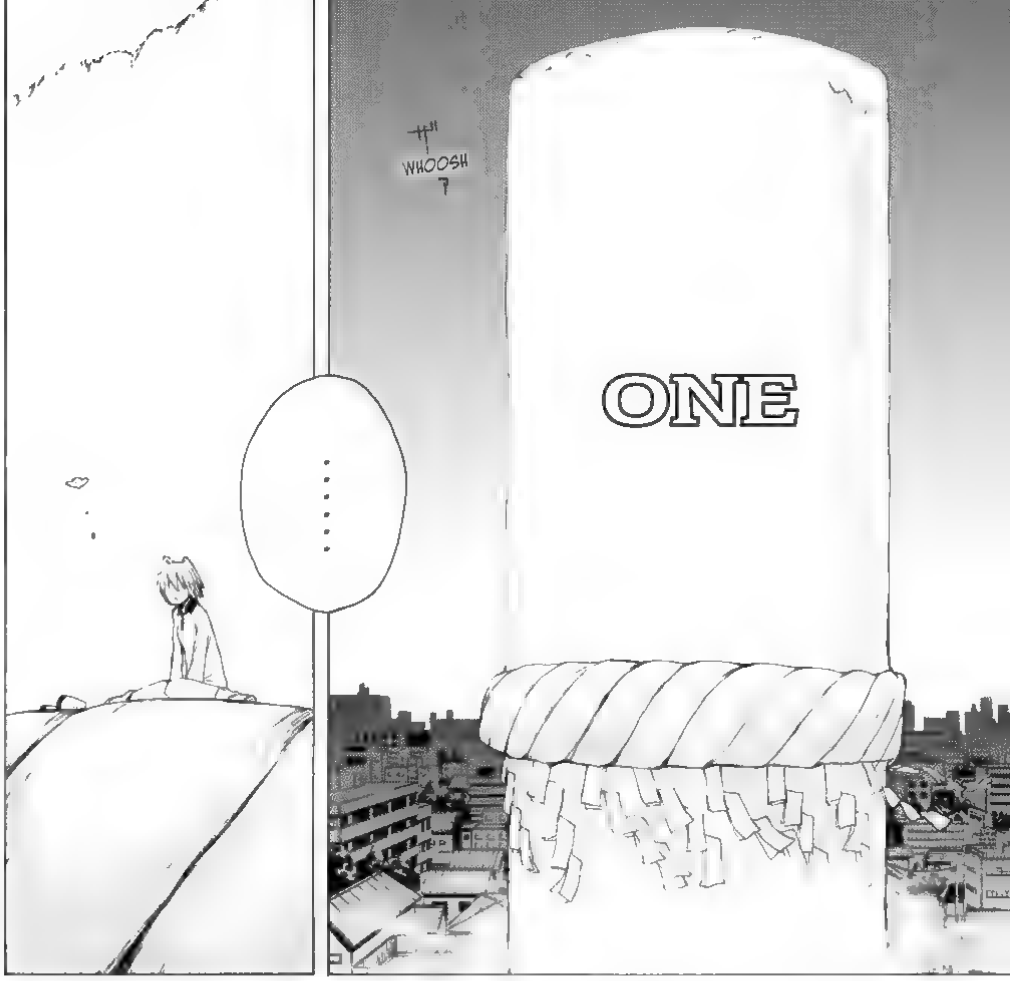
I promise.
ONE
カア CAW
カア CAW
バ FLAP
バ FLAP
ぐす SNIFF

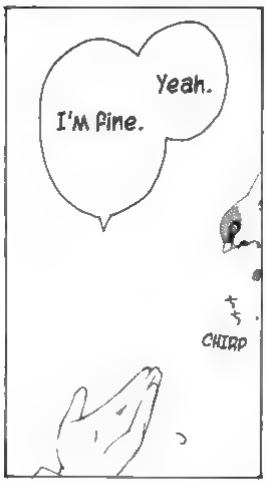
カァ カァ
CAW
FLAP
FLAP
ONE
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
……？

FLAP
FLAP
FLAP
ONE
FLAP
FLAP

FLAP
FLAP
Nii-san?

WHOOSH
Oh!
SSHH
WHOOSH
. . . . . .

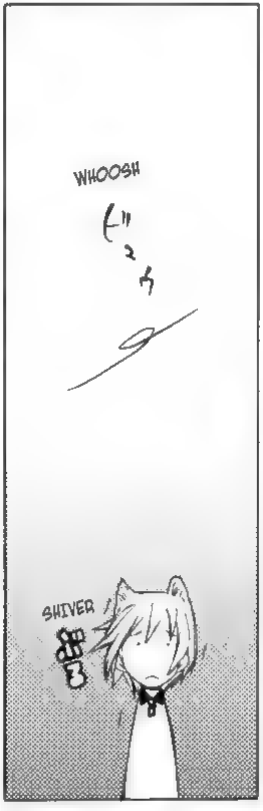

WHOOSH
ONE
.....


Yeah.
I'm fine.
CHIRP

It was just my imagination...

Nii-san... wouldn't be here.
Right?

I should get back.
It's cold...
Hey.


WHOOSH
SHIVER

Come on, Hime.
Urgh...

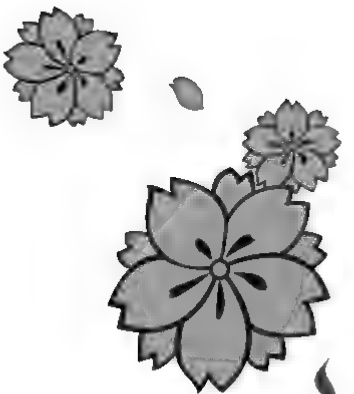
Hey, Ao!

But it's so cold.
Okay!
Come down!
My treat!
Let's go get some ice cream.
Go!
JUMP
ヒュッ
FLAP
I'll see you later.

Owww...
I messed up again...
くるっ
TWIRL
バキッ
CRACK
ぎょっ
GAsp
Aaagh!
Are you okay?
I'M surprised you found out that kid's problem.
HUH!?
THUD!
Where'd you get your information?
Oh.
Hee hee...

Didn't you know? My research skills are amazing!
I'm a valuable employee!
Oh, well.
I see...
Then please take care of the invoices back at the office.
Urgh...
I hate numbers...

3rd Night: Waiting for You (Part 2) FIN



Yozakura Quartet 1

Yozakura Quartet Designs

Age: 16

Hobbies:
patrolling, training

Favorites

Food:
any noodles

Music Group:
Under the Counter

Comedian:
Warai Meshi

Uchi-P member:
Mimura

Little-Known Fact:
She does get fat if she eats too much.

*Approx: 5'5"

I'm the mayor.
I wanted to teach you more before this day...
...but it looks like I don't have enough time.
I'll be fine, Grandma.
I'll be fine, because... ...I'm your grand-daughter!
I know... thank you.

That's not true, woof...
Grand-ma.
You're talking funny.
You can take this to remember me, woof.
Woof?
I'm leaving the town in good hands, woof.
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
WOOF
And you smell like dogs...
HEY!

4th Night: Face the Risks

Has it been a month?
Yes.
Let's go!
This is an abandoned dog who was left with the police.
I'd imagine it'd be too much to ask you to take him.
Of course I can take him!!
ズバ
BLUNTLY
Poor girl...
She can't say no when people are counting on her...
So until she finds an owner...
WOOF
わん
TMP
TMP
But...
DING
DONG

Hello!
DASH
AAGH
ACK
THUMP
THUMP
?

I told you to discipline him!
Hime, I've had enough!!
Hey! Sheesh!
PANT
PANT

It's better to be too spirited than to have no spirit at all! Come, Silva.
I think you're too easy on him.

しゅん
SAD...
Say you're sorry!
But...it's not good to make a mess.
NO!
うむ
GOOD
Okay, go ahead and eat the ice cream!
わん!
WOOF!
SLURP
SLURP

Is it good?
WOOF

I'm hungry, too!
Treat me to ramen!
WAAAAH
Your personality changes so much when you're hungry!

TEARY EYES
Whoa!
GRIP
Akina.
I want some ramen...

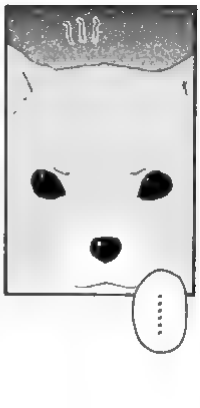
Sheesh...
What a weird dog to like ice cream.

That's not my problem!
I already spent too much buying his food...
So can you treat me?

Go get some ramen at the store.
PUSH!
Waaah!

I have to take care of Hime-sama.
SHINE
And she's taken in too many calories today.
Hey, Kyosuke! Order something for her!
Do something!
No can do.

*Approx. 1.7 lbs.



WOOF!
Aagh!
HUG
ギュー
PRRINNNG
Oh!
You little...
Came to
ハッ
GASP
Oh...it's time for the town meeting! I have to go!
IDIOT!
Why are you hugging me!?
You hugged me!
WHACK

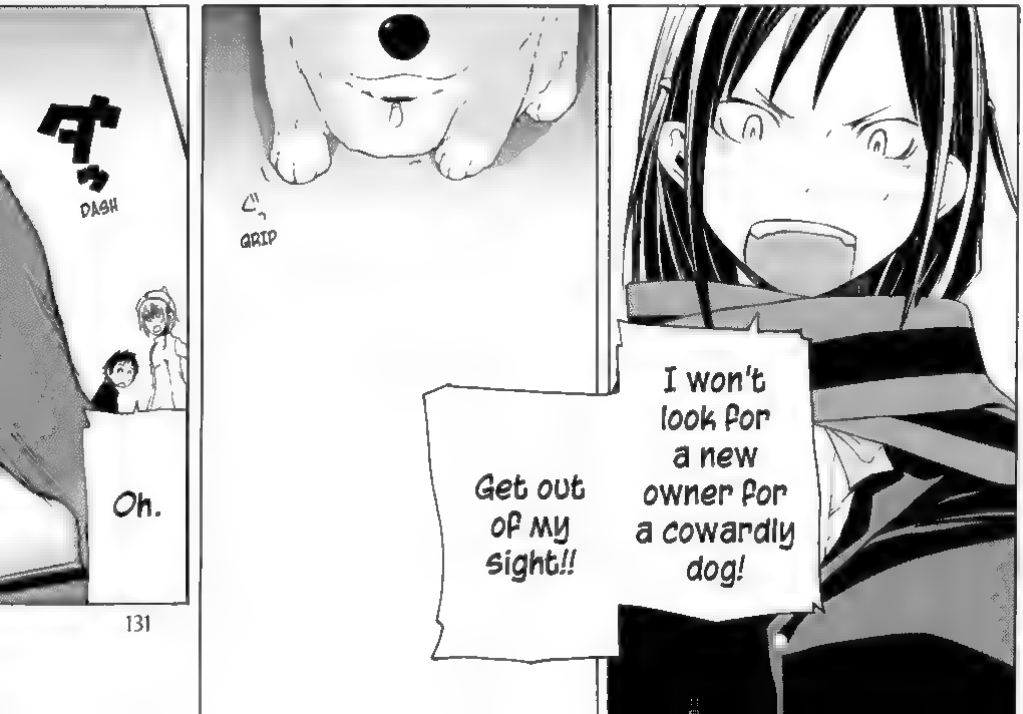
Hime, you have to discipline him or you won't find an owner.
It'll be okay! See you!
I'll be back later!
Let's go, Silva!
WOOF

SLAM

Akina's asleep already?
What?
We've been busy lately...
We've had jobs other than fighting demons and spirits. That's how we make ends meet.
I see...
Mayor Hime, what happened in the meeting?
Oh...
Well, the meeting was about...
WIGGLE

Argh!
BITE
This dog needs to—
GRAB
I guess you won't need to go to the hospital.
Ow....
WHACK

I hate cowards!
Attacking someone while they're sleeping is despicable!
あいや
NHOA
Don't be a baby just because you're lonely!

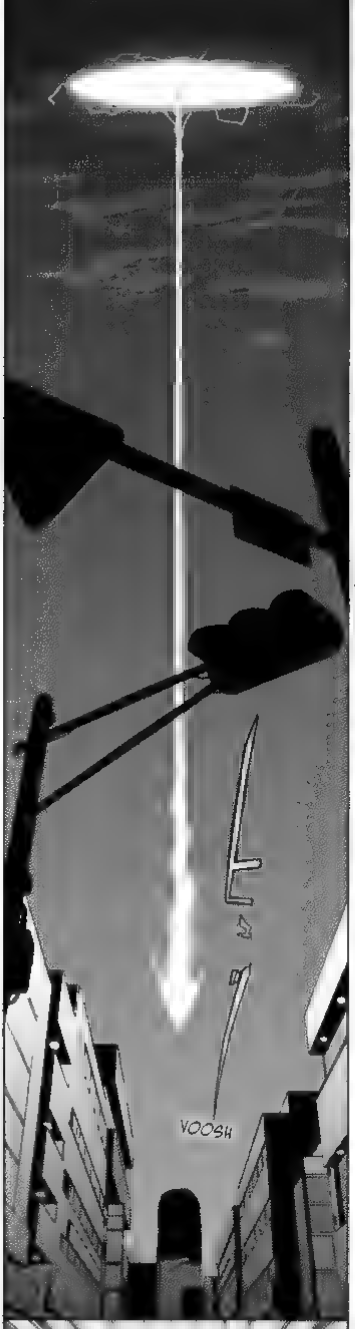

ダッ
DASH
Oh.
GRIP
Get out of my sight!!
I won't look for a new owner for a cowardly dog!

Hime, wasn't that a bit much?
Leave him alone.
Sorry, Akina.
It's my fault for being too easy on him.
.....
Hime-chan lost her parents when she was young.
Same as everyone else in the office.
That's probably why she spoiled you so much.

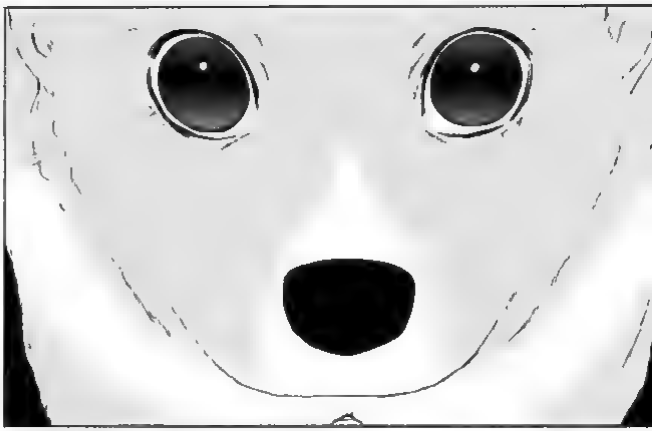
But I don't think she really meant for you to go away.
So let's go back, okay?
CRACKLE
No? You want to look for your mother and brothers?
Okay...
POUR
SPLASH
SPLASH

Hmmm.
Okay.
We'll take care of it.
This dog was abandoned right over there.
Can the police take care of him?
Thank you.
SPLASH
ORANGES

Hey.
POUR
You're going back to your mom and brothers?
You don't have to worry about them.
TREMBLE
TREMBLE
Hmm?
RUFFLE
RUFFLE
CRACKLE
You were abandoned again, huh?


VOOSH

I already...
...buried them.
SMILE



Then let's begin.
SNAP!
Now you're really alone.
So the mayor abandoned you.

!
WOOSH
FLUMP
Whoa!
That way...
Wear this!
It sounds like trouble. Let's go!
DASH

DAAAAAAAAGH!!
What were you doing at this hour?
In your school uniform?
Taking a walk!
Akina!
Yeah!
DAAAAAGH
Ice Cream
.....
Could it be?
!

Silva!
He's attacking!

No...
SWIIING...
WOOF
SWIIIING
Akina!
Ouch...
THUNK
OW!
If there's still hope, I'm not going to attack him!
We can still save him! Do something!
Shut up! Shut up!
What are you doing, Hime?
WOOSH

What's that? I can't catch something that fast!
CRACK
Good timing, Kotoha! Can you corner him using your powers?
Sorry I'm late!
I'm sleepy!
I guess we have to catch him alive!
RROOOAAAARRRR
LICK
Sheesh.
He makes it sound like it's easy.
S-LUMP
Ao, come!
You don't have to catch him.
Just limit his movements!
Man!
I was supposed to go do karaoke tomorrow!

SHIIIING
Now he has two choices!
"Wall!!"
BOOM
CRACKLE
Ao!
Yes!
CRACKLE
VOOOOOOOSH
Um...!

WOOSH
Left!!
!
WOOSH
RRRRRIP
CATCH
Ack!
Got him!!

!
VOOSH
WHACK
Told you.
I couldn't help it.
Oh...
Hime!

FLASH
Encore.
...than she does about you.
She cares more about that guy...

What the heck is going on?
WOOSH
VOOOSH
GRIP
BOOM
BOOM
Agh!
Whoa!
Damn...
!

I don't think...
...we can save him anymore!
Hey, Hime!
What should we do?
SIGH
はぁぁぁぁぁ

すぅ
INHALE
TUG
Okay.
Okay? Hime?
Here he comes!
VOOSH

WHACK
JUMP
Ugh...
Wow, Hime's fired up.
How cool!!
But...!
THUD
WHACK
THUD
WHACK
THUD
WHACK
WHACK

WHACK
Urgh...
WHACK
WHACK
Rrr
Hime!

Oh my goodness!
You're a boy! Stop your whining!
WHINE...
Yes...
He's been like this since we took him in...
WHINE
WHINE
We should find an owner for him soon...
He's lonely because he was taken away from his family.

CREAK
Come here.
I'll put it on.
These are called Twin Stones. There are two of them.
Hime-sama.
Yeah, you look good.
Okay.
Are you sure? That was given to you by your grandmother...
The other stone...
You can keep that.

...I'll give...
...to your new owner...
He suddenly...
...got quiet...
.....
GRR
WOOSH

Oh!
GRIND
WHACK
This is...
...the end!!
POW
Ow!
Ouch...
CREAK
What... Akina!?
What are you doing!?
ガン
BONK
Can't you tell!? We can't save him anymore!

I have to kill him and you have to remove the spirit.
That's how we deal with threats to our town!
BONK
BONK
But you...
BONK
BONK
I hesitated because I had hoped to save him!
If there were even a one percent chance of saving him, I would. But since there isn't, I have to protect the town!
There's no chance now. It's hopeless!!
Don't get in my way!!
.....
Ow.

I can do the dirty work sometimes.
That's what...
...we're here for.

WHIP
Hey!
I guess you're right...

Give it back!
I'll do it!!

You are right.
But you know...

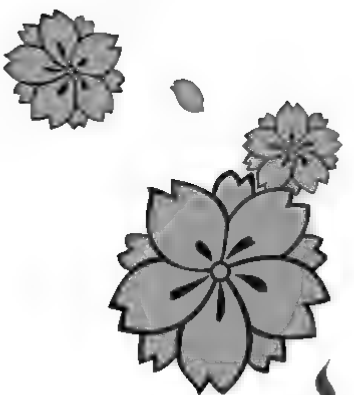
...you shouldn't be the one who has to do it.

Sorry...
We couldn't save you.
Please go on ahead.

Hime brought us something...
How unusual...

If something becomes a threat to the town, I'd kill it without hesitation.
But...
...I don't think I made a mistake.
I didn't do much last time.
MUNCH
Oh.
She ate it herself.
.....
Even if it were you guys.
And if...
...I turn out like that...
...kill me without hesitation, too.
And protect the town in my place!!

I promise.
...Okay.
Then no one could beat you.
Of course, if I fell that far, I'd get ten times stronger!
It's still impos-sible!
Train harder!
.....
TINK...



Yozakura Quartet 1

Yozakura Quartet Designs

Kotoha Isone

Kotodama user with glasses and big boobs

165 cm*

Age: 16

Hobbies:
traveling

Favorites

Food:
anything with vegetables

Music Group:
Strange Nude Cult

Comedian:
Itsuji Itao

Uchi-P member:
Ucchan

Little-Known Fact:
likes girls

*Approx: 5'5"

A rampaging shooter...
...and a demonized dog.
There's something going on in this town.
But...
It's so peaceful...
ぽか SUNNY
ぽか SUNNY
It's springtime.
Be prepared and have no regrets.
We should be prepared so we can take action immediately. So let's take care of our paperwork.

Wow, Kotoha-chan is amazing!
She's a hard worker!
. . . . . .
EFFICIENT
EFFICIENT
EFFICIENT
EFFICIENT
Oh!
FLOAT FLOAT
PUSH
?
TUG
I was tricked!!
You found out...
Don't use your powers for stupid things!
SHOCK
DARN
TRAVEL GERMANY

5th Night:
Your Song

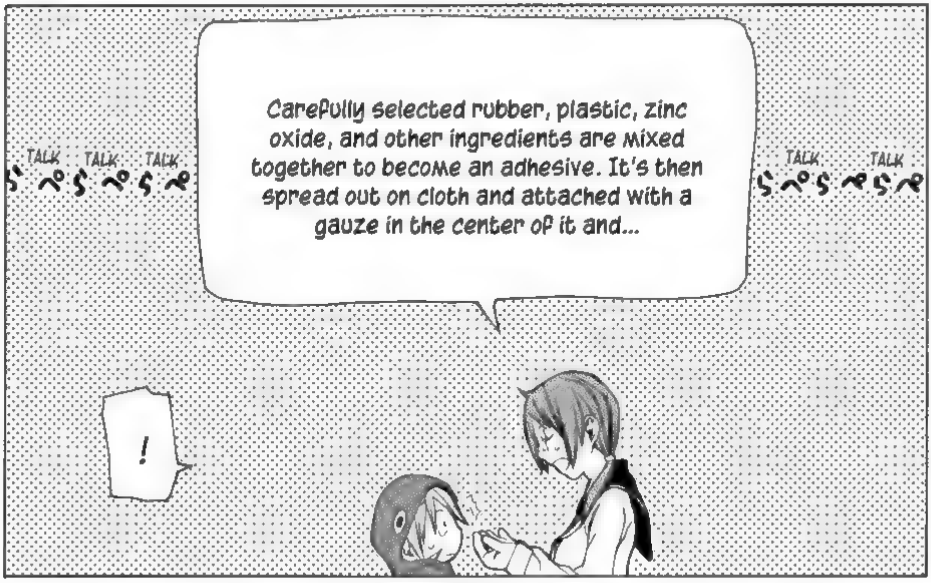
HEE
HEE
TRAVEL GERMANY
Ta-da!

You're going?
Germany?

I see. Germany, huh?
FLAP
TRAVEL GERMANY
Sorry about the low salary.
Took me forever with my low salary but I finally saved up. I'm going during spring break.

DING
DONG
Museums are nice, too, but actually...
Berlin
Bremen
Hamburg
Einstein, Beethoven, Wagner, Nietzsche...
There are a lot of museums, too.
HEE HEE
You like those, don't you?
Munchen
Sorry, Kana-chan got hurt.
WAAAH
Can I borrow your first-aid kit?
It's because you're not careful!
Oh, no.
UMMM...

Uh-oh, we're out of Band-Aids.
EMPTY
Oh my.
WAAAAH
I guess I have to...
LICK


Carefully selected rubber, plastic, zinc oxide, and other ingredients are mixed together to become an adhesive. It's then spread out on cloth and attached with a gauze in the center of it and...
TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK
TALK
!

Can't you say that with fewer words?
♪
PLOP

POOF

But I can learn quick words...
CRACKLE
I see.
But it's not always that easy.
If it's something simple like "wall" or "ice," I can.
If you don't need to use it, you shouldn't.
THROW
You're great!
That I can use as shortcuts, like...
WOO-HOO
POOF
"Micro-phone!"
Wow.
She's having fun.
WAITE WAITE
Can you go shopping?
And buy some Band-Aids, too?
CREAK
Okay.
ROGER
Let's go, Ao.

"One" is "eins."
Uh, "two" is "zwei."
"Three" is "drei."
I forgot four through six...
"Seven" is "sieben," I think.
"Eight" is "acht"!
Why does she know "eight" so well?
Hee hee.
My German is complete!
WHACK
THUNK
REALLY?

Take...
...that!
THUD
Ugh!
WHACK
We're back
They're training?
Yeah.
HMPH
I...lose.

I need to get stronger...
I'm not strong enough to protect this town.
Training, Hime?
Yeah.
Huh?
Me?
Oh yeah, Kotoha.
Can you train with me?
.....
TINK...
I don't want to. It's tiring.
First aid
Kyosuke's not strong enough.

Fine, I'll do it!
My boobs have nothing to do with this!
Why not!?
Are those big boobs just there for decoration!?
What! You coward!!
I won't do it.
Sheesh...
I didn't bring a change of clothes today.
ﾍﾟﾁ
CRACK

Let's do it then!
Don't get hurt!
ボキ
CRACK
VWOOSH
"Stick."
CRACKLE
バチ
THWAP!
Take that!!
GRIP

WOOSH
This is more like it!!
PING
PING
PING
"Wall!!"
KABOOM
BOOM
You...
WHACK
WHACK
Not enough!!

Shortcut.
"Grenade!"
ZWISH
SWING
WHACK
WOOSH

GASP
KA-BOOM
TMP
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BANG BANG BANG
BULLET
BLAM
PING
WHOOSH

Yeah, but they can hit us!
BOOM
BOOM
WHIP
Those can't hit me!
DODGE
Still not enough!
DODGE

Hey, Kyosuke.
What?

PING
.....

PING

Why don't you take off your shackles and fight her?
Seriously.
You know I can't.
If I take them off, I can't hold back my powers.
I can't go easy on her.
Without my shackles...
I can't live in this town that easily, either.
I see...
It must be tough.
Being a demon.
.....

And whose fault is that?

KABOOM
Aagh!
Shuriken!
Kotoha-chan is losing.
HMDH
Huh?
Did you say something?

WAAH
I ran out of power!
なんなのよ
LEAVE ME ALONE

Materialize them!
Hey! You're slacking off!
WHIP
SHU RI KEN
WHIP

This is interesting. Let's watch a bit longer.
AAGHH
AGGH
BBQ-BEEF
ズテーン
THUD
Oh.
My ticket...
FLAP
Ow!
TRIP
JL411
GERMANY

CRUSH
OH
NO
RROOOARRR
Huh? What's this?
Heh heh. You give up?

メキ CRACK
メキ CRACK...
メキ...
HUH?
CRACK
Hime...
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
ゴ
RRROOOAAAARRR
THUD!
ズゥゥゥ

Hmm.
She's a powerful Kotodama User!
She's not using her powers!
Heh heh
SWING
Whoa!
WOOSH
WHIP
WHIP
CLANG
Her glasses!
Is the fight over?
CRACK
ZWISH
CRACK
WOOOSH
CRACK
Hmm.
VOOOSH
VOOOSH
SST

They're just for decoration.
CRUSH
My Germany trip...
THUNK
THUNK

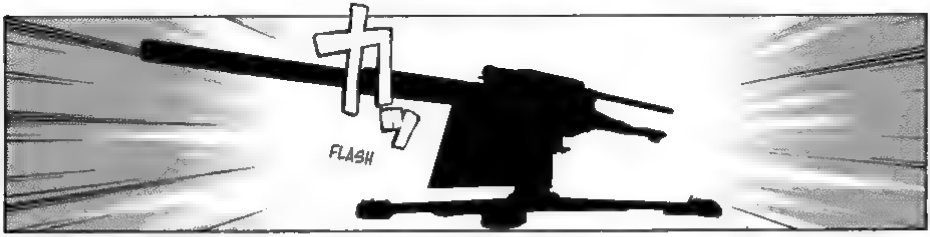
What the...
Shortcut!
CRACKLE
"Acht"
"Acht!!"
KA-BOOM
BOOM
Why does she have that shortcut memorized!?
German army's FLAK 36 88 mm Cannon!!

WOOSH
I can't deflect this!
KA-BOOM

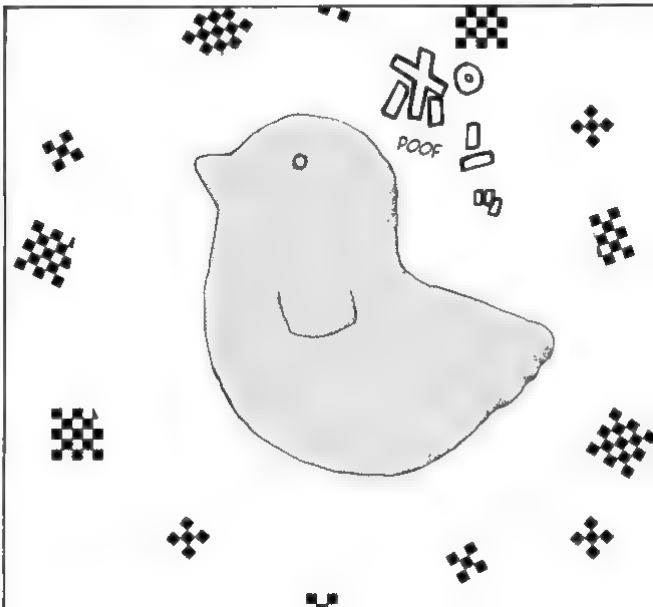
Urgh!!
SLIDE

Urgh!
Hime, behind you!
Umm... umm...
Can I stop it this time?
Damn.
One more!
Acht.
A...

ば
WOOSH
ばっ
WOOSH
...acht...
SABLE
SABLE?


カッ
FLASH

パシ
GRAB


ポン
POOF

MUNCH
Aaagh!
WHAP!
Ack!
A pigeon sable?
TUG
MUNCH MUNCH
Idiot! Look at the kids back there!
WHAP
Do you know what would've happened if you shot that cannon!?

Don't forget that time...
.....
...you were demonized!!
Hey! Are you listening?
.....

TAP
...You're right...
I'm sorry...
Akina.
Sorry.
I'm okay now.

WOOOOSH
I'm sorry I scared you.
Come here.
TWITCH
"Sakura."
How pretty!
Wow.

Hime...
What?
Hime's
memo.
What's
that?
Himemo
for
short.
Huh?

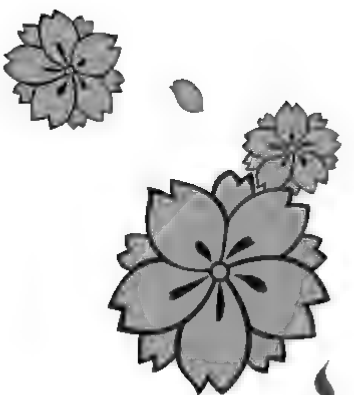
Kotoha's
dangerous
when mad...
WRITE
WRITE

Ugh...I'm
really sorry
about that.
I really
wanted to go
to Germany...
BITE
BITE

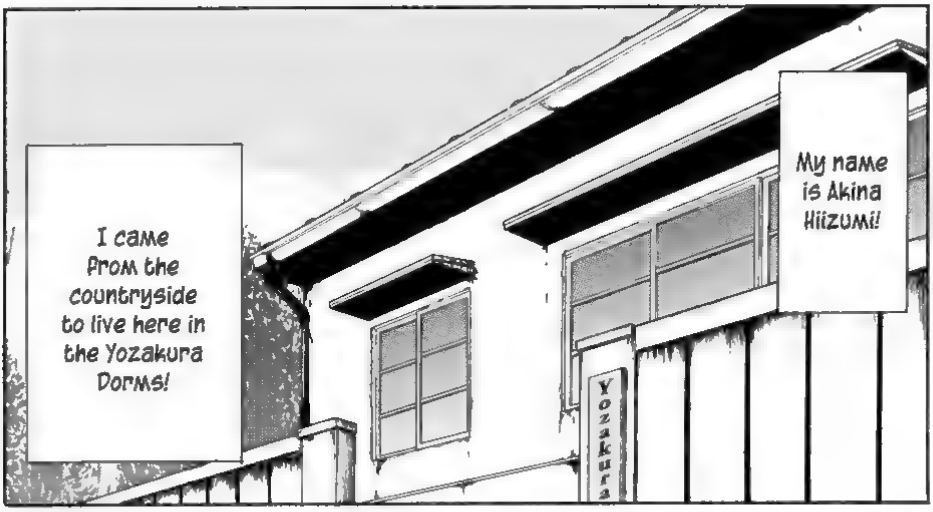
Sigh...
but...
RIPPED

Koblenz Museum of Military Technology
Located in the center of Koblenz. There are many tanks and weapons on display. It is a must-see for any military enthusiast.
I really wanted to visit...
...the Koblenz Museum of Military Technology.
You were trying to go there!?
RUSTLE
RUSTLE
Found it.
Huh? Germany?
I think...
Hm?
What?
How convenient!!
No way!
HAPPY
Tonight's karaoke tournament.
The grand prize is a trip to Germany.
FLAP
March 24
"Sakurashin Town
Karaoke Tournament"
Starts at 4 p.m.
Grand Prize
A trip to Germany

Yeah! My favorite "Microphone"!
TA-DA!
ペ、ペけ
ペー
As long as...
I have this...
Aaaaaaaa aghhhhhhh!
Because you used it up...
I lost my voice!



Yozakura Quartet


I came from the countryside to live here in the Yozakura Dorms!
My name is Akina Hiizumi!
Yozakura

Hello! I'm staying here as of today!
CLICK
THUD
Whoa!

My life in Tokyo starts here!
Alright!

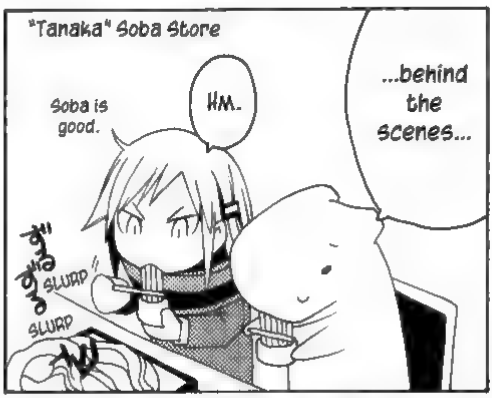
What the heck?

The owner's daughter

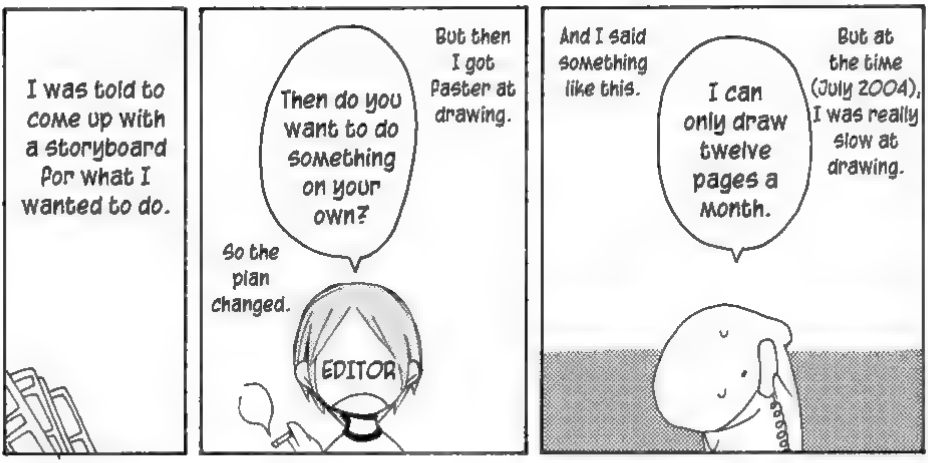
© Hiroki Harase

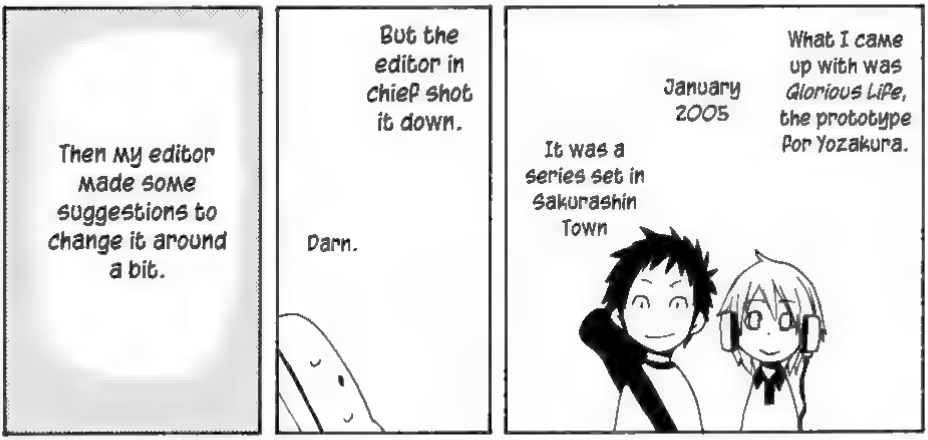
Bonus Manga

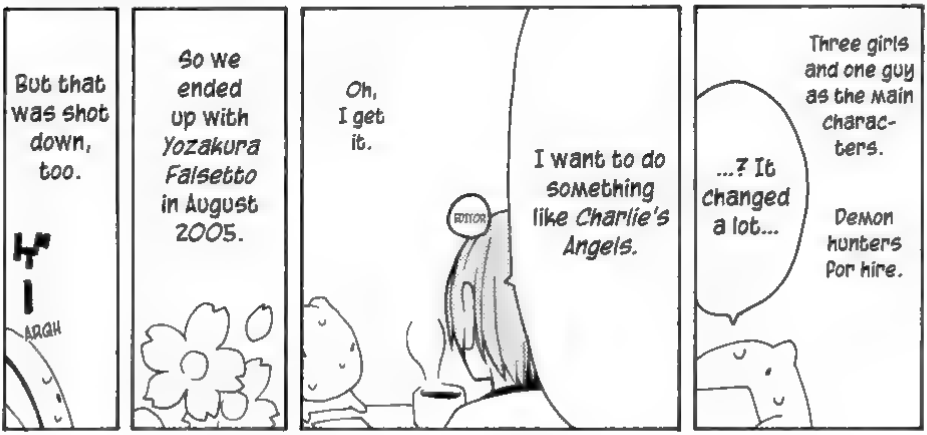
Thank you very much!
This is a bonus manga to follow the weird manga you just read.
Hello. Thank you for buying Yozakura Quartet volume 1!

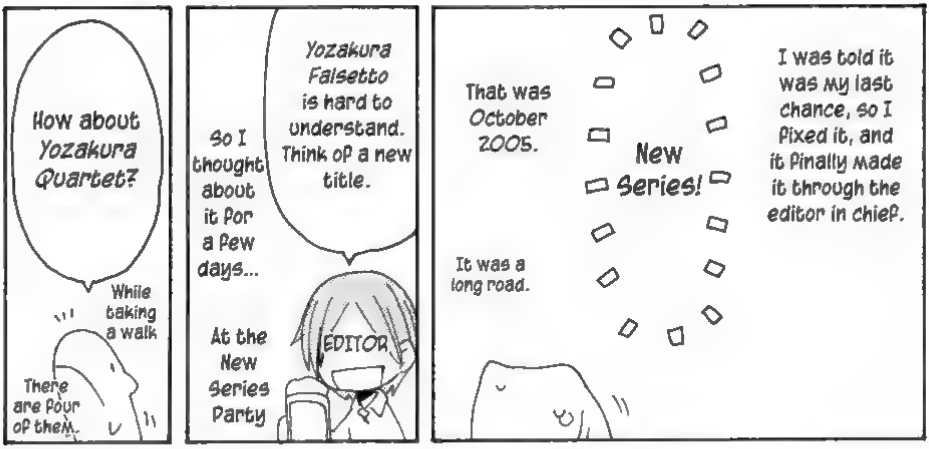


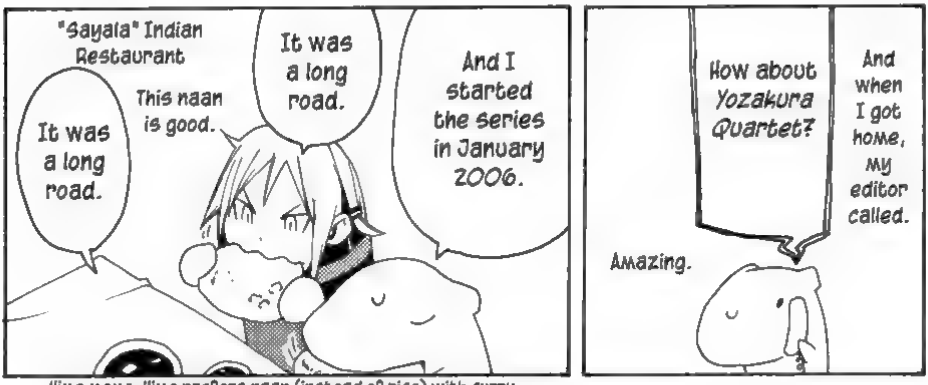
Hime memo: Hime eats cold soba seven times a week. (The author eats it five times a week.)


I was told to come up with a storyboard for what I wanted to do.
Then do you want to do something on your own?
But then I got faster at drawing.
So the plan changed.
EDITOR
And I said something like this.
I can only draw twelve pages a month.
But at the time (July 2004), I was really slow at drawing.

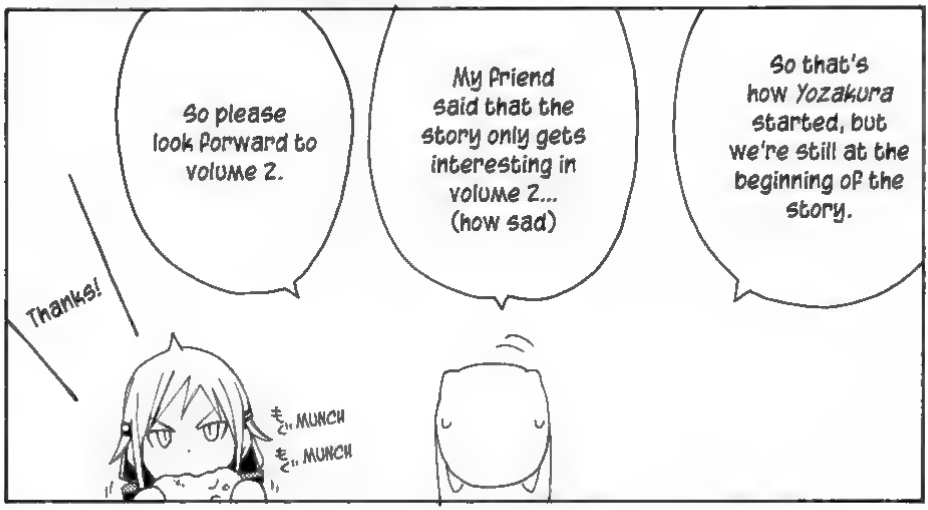

Then my editor made some suggestions to change it around a bit.
But the editor in chief shot it down.
Darn.
January 2005
What I came up with was *Glorious Life*, the prototype for Yozakura.
It was a series set in Sakurashin Town


But that was shot down, too.
ARGH
So we ended up with *Yozakura Falsetto* in August 2005.
Oh, I get it.
EDITOR
I want to do something like *Charlie's Angels*.
...? It changed a lot...
Three girls and one guy as the main characters.
Demon hunters for hire.


How about Yozakura Quartet?
While taking a walk
There are four of them.
So I thought about it for a few days...
Yozakura Falsetto is hard to understand. Think of a new title.
At the New Series Party
EDITOR
That was October 2005.
It was a long road.
New Series!
I was told it was my last chance, so I fixed it, and it finally made it through the editor in chief.

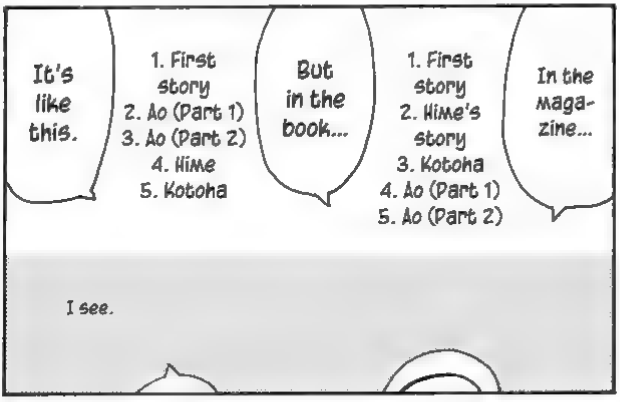

"Sayala" Indian Restaurant
It was a long road.
This naan is good.
It was a long road.
And I started the series in January 2006.
How about Yozakura Quartet?
Amazing.
And when I got home, my editor called.

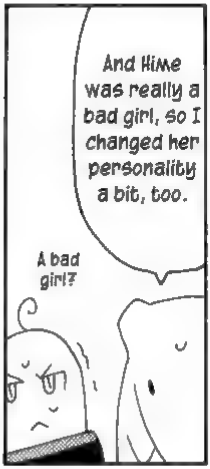
Hime memo: Hime prefers naan (instead of rice) with curry.


So please look forward to volume 2.
My friend said that the story only gets interesting in volume 2... (how sad)
So that's how Yozakura started, but we're still at the beginning of the story.
Thanks!
MUNCH
MUNCH

"Tomita" Mexican Restaurant
That's true.
Actually, the chapters in this volume were switched around from when it ran in the magazine.
Then a little more...
SLURP
SLURP
SLURP
Peperoncino with mint leaves is good.

Hime memo: Hime eats six meals a day.





Actually, until the final final version before this series ran...
Hmm... then...
Just a little bit more.
There's still space to fill.
SLURP
Hime is depressed in every chapter.
Tsunheko
Tsunshun didn't sound too good, so I changed it to...
Ta-da!
But she's actually my favorite character.
Really?
You don't have to say that!
She was created because my editor suggested that we have a girl with glasses.
WHACK WHACK
BLECH
I didn't have Kotoha.
Please read the second volume, too! I 'll see you then!
See you!
Thank you to everyone who helped me with this book. Kato-sensei, thank you for the title logo. Thank you to Narita-san for promoting this title in his book. Thank you to Shiro Miwa-san for the sakura petals. Thank you to my assistants, Amagi-san, Anri-san, and Sugiyama-san, etc, etc. And to all the readers! Thank you very much!
So now we are out of pages.

Translation Notes

Japanese is a tricky language for most Westerners, and translation is often more an art than a science. For your edification and reading pleasure, here are notes on some of the places where we could have gone in a different direction, or where a Japanese cultural reference is used.

Sakura, page 2

Sakura is the Japanese term for cherry blossoms. The word "Yozakura" in the title refers to *sakura* at night, or viewing *sakura* at night.

Tsundere, page 51

Tsundere is a term for a specific character trait, describing a person who is standoffish or aloof but can become loveable and adorable in different situations. This term first started in Japanese dating simulation games, then moved on to anime and manga, but is now widely used in mass media.

Your Song Is Good, page 54

Your Song Is Good is a Japanese musical group with six members that formed in 1998. Their name is abbreviated as YSIG.

Itoshi Koishi Master, page 54

A comedic duo made up of older brother Itoshi and younger brother Koishi. Itoshi died in 2003, and Koishi retired from comedy. However, he still works in the entertainment industry as a commentator and actor.

Uchi-P, page 54

Uchi-P is an abbreviated term for *Uchimura Produce*, a TV show featuring comedians doing comedy sketches.

Otake, page 54

Otake is a Japanese comedian. His full name is Kazuki Otake, and he and his partner Masakazu Mimura make up the comedic group SUMMERS.

Hidagyu, page 55

Hidagyu is a kind of Japanese beef from cattle raised in Hida, a city in Gifu prefecture. It's fatty and known to be expensive. This character is a play on the character Pikachu from *Pocket Monsters* (*Pokemon*).

Onii-chan, page 67

Onii-chan is an honorific for an "older brother."

Don't bring my sister into this!
Hey, wait a minute!
"Your onii-chan likes little girls."
You know what I'M going to tell Touka-chan?
Gasp

Suemitsu & the Suemith, page 80

A singer and songwriter in Japan. He is also a pianist and a composer. He plays a genre called "Grind Piano Rock," which is like a fusion of classical music and rock.

Red Yoshida, page 80

Red Yoshida is a Japanese comedian. He and his partner Golgo Matsumoto make up the duo TIM.

Kiyoshi, page 101

Akina is referring to Kiyoshi Nishikawa, whose motto was "move up in baby steps." Kiyoshi Nishikawa is a Japanese comedian who also served in the upper house of parliament.

Under the Counter, page 118

Under the Counter is a Japanese rock band composed of four friends who met in college. They are also known as UTC.

Warai Meshi, page 118

Warai Meshi is a Japanese comedy duo composed of Koji Nishida and Tetsuo. Both were originally part of different duos, but their partners couldn't keep up with their strong personalities. Their name comes from the phrase "making a living with comedy."

Mimura, page 118

Masakazu Mimura is a Japanese comedian who is part of SUMMERS. His partner is Kazuki Otake.

Strange Nude Cult, page 162

Strange Nude Cult is a Japanese rock band, a trio. They are from the western region of Japan, and have a cult following among the locals.

Itsuji Itao, page 162

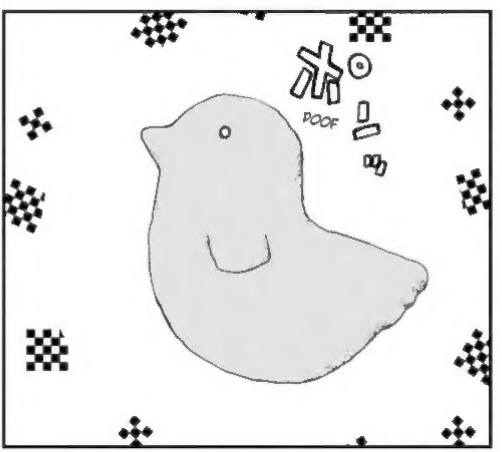
Itao is a Japanese comedian who is a member of the duo 130R. His partner is Hong Kong (real name Takahiro Kurano).

Ucchan, page 162

Ucchan is the abbreviated name for Teruyoshi Uchimura, the executive producer and main comedian for Uchi-P. He is a member of the duo Ucchan Nanchan with his partner Kiyotaka Nanbara.

Acht Sable, page 190

"Acht" sounds like *a hato* in Japanese. *Hato* is a word for pigeon, and a *hato sable* is a sable in the shape of a pigeon, which is often used for souvenirs. A sable is a buttery-flavored cookie that originated in France.



Hiroki Haruse, page 202

Hiroki Haruse is the author of "U I Etranze," which is featured in *Magazine Sirius*, the magazine that runs *Yozakura Quartet*.

Soba, page 203

Soba is the Japanese term for buckwheat noodles. They are gray in color and are one of the healthier noodles available in Japan. They can be served hot or cold, although in manga they are often depicted as cold.

Ryogo Narita, page 206

Ryogo Narita is a novelist from Japan. He mostly writes "light novels" that are made for anime/manga fans. He is known to write fast, but also has many typos.

Shun and *Heko*, pages 206 & 207

To be *shun* is to be sad or depressed. You can also use the word *heko* for the same thing. *Heko* is originally meant "a dent or indentation," but modern Japanese use the term for your mood being "dented."